



SECRETARIAT

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25 March 2015

## To the members of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 23 March 2015

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting in Paris, with Mr Thierry Mariani (France, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Continued detention of its member, Ms Nadiya Savchenko (Ukraine, EPP/CD)**: adopted a statement calling upon the Russian Federation to release her;
- **Exchange of views with Ms Anne Brasseur, President of the Parliamentary Assembly**: heard a statement and held an exchange of views;
- **Humanitarian consequences of the actions of the terrorist group known as “Islamic State”** (Rapporteur: Mr Jean-Marie Bockel, France, EPP/CD): held an exchange of views with Mr Gert Westerveen, UNHCR Representative to the European Institutions in Strasbourg; considered and approved a draft report and adopted unanimously a draft resolution as amended; authorised the rapporteur to modify the statistics in the explanatory memorandum before the debate scheduled on Tuesday, 21 April 2015;
- **Missing persons during the conflict in Ukraine** (Rapporteur: Mr Jim Sheridan, United Kingdom, SOC): held a hearing with the participation of Mr Vasył Vovk, Chief of the main Investigative Division of the Security Service of Ukraine, Ms Hanna Mokrousova, representative of “Vostok-SOS”, Ms Olga Alekseeva, Executive Director of the Saint Petersburg Regional Human Rights Organisation “Soldiers’ Mothers of St. Petersburg”, Russian Federation and Mr Eskender Bariiev, Coordinator of the Committee for the Defence of Human Rights of the Crimean Tatars, Ukraine; considered and approved a memorandum;
- **Criminalisation of irregular migrants: a crime without victim** (Rapporteur: Mr Ionuț-Marian Stroe, Romania, ALDE): in the absence of the rapporteur, took note of a preliminary draft report;
- **Recommendation 2047 (2014) on “The large-scale arrival of mixed migratory flows on Italian shores”** (Rapporteur: Mr Christopher Chope, United Kingdom, EC): considered the reply from the Committee of Ministers and agreed to invite a representative of the Committee of Ministers for an exchange of views on the subject during the 3<sup>rd</sup> part of the 2015 Session of the Assembly;
- **Democratic participation for migrant diasporas** (Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views on the follow-up to the report; supported the Rapporteur’s proposal to create a Parliamentary Network on Diasporas Policies and agreed to come back to this question at one of its forthcoming meetings;
- **The humanitarian situation of Ukrainian refugees and displaced persons** (Rapporteur: Mr Jim Sheridan, United Kingdom, SOC): heard a statement by the rapporteur on the follow-up to the report;

agreed to invite the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to organise a joint hearing on “Ukraine: prospects for peace and humanitarian challenges” to be held during the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the 2015 Session of the Assembly, on 22 April 2015; following the Russian delegation's decision to suspend all institutional contacts with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe until the end of 2015, decided not to carry out the visit of the *Ad hoc* Sub-Committee to Ukrainian refugee camps in the Russian Federation;

- **Brain drain as a consequence of migration:** heard a statement by Mr El Mokhtar Ghambou, member of the Moroccan Partner for Democracy Delegation to the PACE; agreed to initiate a report on this item;
- **Global campaign to end immigration detention of children:** appointed Ms Doris Fiala (Switzerland, ALDE), General Rapporteur on “Ending immigration detention of children” and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest; considered and approved the Committee's Work plan and heard from the General Rapporteur a statement on her planned activities and in particular, on the launching of the Campaign during the 2nd part of the 2015 Session of the Assembly, on 20 April 2015;
- **3rd training for Parliamentarians on visiting places of detention for irregular migrants and asylum seekers (Schiphol, Netherlands, 18 May 2015):** heard a statement by the Chairperson of the Committee and invited Committee members to participate in this training, reminding members that the number of participants is limited to 5;
- **Composition of the Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:

#### **Sub-Committee on Integration**

- Ms Alev Korun (Austria, SOC) to become a titular member
- Mr René Rouquet (France, SOC) to become a titular member
- Mr Jean-Marie Bockel (France, EPP/CD) to become an alternate member
- Mr Denis Jacquat (France, EPP/CD) to become an alternate member
- Mr Manlio Di Stefano (Italy, NR) to become a titular member
- Mr Luis Alberto Orellana (Italy, ALDE) to become an alternate member

#### **Sub-Committee on Population**

- Ms Alev Korun (Austria, SOC) to become a titular member
- Mr Edgar Mayer (Austria, EPP/CD) to become a titular member
- Mr Bernard Fournier (France, EPP/CD) to become a titular member
- Mr Jean-Marie Bockel (France, EPP/DC) to become an alternate member
- Mr Francesco Verducci (Italy, SOC) to become a titular member
- Mr Vaninno Chiti (Italy, SOC) to become an alternate member

#### **Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit**

- Ms Barbara Rozenkranz (Austria, NR) to become a titular member
- Mr Bernard Fournier (France, EPP/CD) to become a titular member
- Mr Denis Jacquat (France, EPP/CD) to become an alternate member
- Mr Manlio Di Stefano (Italy, NR) to become a titular member
- Mr Claudio Fazzone (Italy, EPP/CD) to become an alternate member
- Mr Killion Munyama (Poland, EPP/CD) to become an alternate member

- **Appointment of rapporteurs for reports:**

**Violence against migrants:** appointed Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;

**The implementation of the Hirsi judgment: have push backs come to an end?:** following an exchange of views, agreed not to elaborate the report on this subject and to take it into account in the framework of the preparation of the report on “The Mediterranean Sea: a front door to irregular migration” (Rapporteur: Ms Daphné Dumery, Belgium, NR) and “Countries of transit: meeting new migration and asylum challenges” (Rapporteur: Ms Tineke Strik, Netherlands, SOC);

**Closing the protection gap of unaccompanied children in Europe:** decided to postpone the appointment of a rapporteur until its next meeting;

- **Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit (Lagos, Portugal, 30-31 March 2015):** heard a statement by Mr António Braga (Portugal, SOC) on the preparation of the Conference on “North-South Migration Dialogue” organised in co-operation with the Parliamentary Projects Support Division of the Assembly and the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in Portugal in the framework of the Joint Programme “Towards a Strengthened Democratic Governance in the Southern Mediterranean” (South Programme) funded by the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe to be held in Lagos (Portugal) on 30-31 March 2015;
- **Other business:**
  - Countries of transit: meeting new migration and asylum challenges** (Rapporteur: Ms Tineke Strik, Netherlands, SOC): authorised the rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Spain;
  - The Mediterranean Sea: a front door to irregular migration** (Rapporteur: Ms Daphné Dumery, Belgium, NR): authorised the rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Italy;
- **Representation of the Committee at various events:** appointed Ms Tülin Erkal Kara (Turkey, EC) to participate in a conference on “Health and wellbeing of immigrants in detention centres in EU” organised by the University of Uppsala, Sweden, 18 May 2015, subject to the availability of financial resources by the Assembly;
- **Next meetings:**
  - **Strasbourg**, during the 2nd part-session 2015 (20-24 April)
  - **Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)**, 2-3 June 2015
  - **Strasbourg**, during the 3rd part-session 2015 (22-26 June)
  - **Paris**, 9 September 2015
  - **Strasbourg**, during the 4th part-session 2015 (28 September-2 October)
  - **Paris**, 2 December 2015

Agnieszka Nachilo, Agnès Nollinger, Olga Kostenko, David Milner

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly  
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights  
Director of Communication  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe